



Atlantic Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Construction Safety Program Summary FY 98

● The Construction Division, Code 05, announced a management improvement plan for reducing contractor accidents. The program has been promoted throughout the Command at various meetings and seminars for Resident Officer in Charge of Construction (ROICC) managers throughout the year and utilizing an in-house designed Construction Safety poster. The program, "ZERO ACCIDENTS THROUGH ZERO TOLERANCE," is modeled after the Construction Industry Institute (CII) member organization successes with this program. This initiative has been integrated into standard business practices and contract requirements at key points in our processes involving pre-work phases and in process construction phases.

● As a result of this program, coupled with several other initiatives for reducing contractor accidents, Atlantic Division was honored with notoriety from the Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) for having the lowest Engineering Field Division (EFD) contractor lost-time accident rates during FY 96 and FY 97. This accomplishment becomes even more notable when the data collected revealed that actual contractor work-hours expended on LANTDIV projects had increased during these periods. The recorded rate was less than sister Department of Defense organizations, such as US Army Corps of Engineers, and CII corporate member organizations. This accomplishment, however, is not a sign of satisfaction or substitution in meeting our Command goal of "ZERO."

● Construction Division responsibility encompassing additional Engineering Field Activities has increased and will continue to do so. The Construction



Division has made great strides in selecting management strategies that will maintain our focus on assuring safe contractor sites. Sharing Command resources freely throughout the

organization and a clear management commitment for our safety program has embodied the success. The construction safety commitment has been exemplified through actions.

Several employees have been promoted to Safety Engineering Technicians in order to help assure a key resource of expertise is available at the field level.



Scaffold is inspected by ROICC QA.

● A NAVFAC sponsored and funded pilot program was implemented at LANTDIV during FY 98. The purpose of the program was to measure the Command Construction Safety Program through comparisons against an established National Safety Council database that reflects data from industries throughout the country and world and to identify any potential areas of improvement. The process involved the development of a detailed survey questionnaire. The questionnaire was circulated throughout all LANTDIV ROICC offices. Once completed, the information was delivered to the National Safety Council where it was analyzed and compared to the industry. The results of the survey called the "Safety Barometer" showed that the LANTDIV Construction Safety Program had the best rating of any previously collected data in the industry.

● Safety surveillance competencies of ROICC employees have increased through Command-wide safety training made available through a newly developed in-house 40-Hour Construction Safety Hazard Awareness Course. In FY 98, three sessions of the course were offered. To date, over 150 ROICC employees with surveillance responsibility have participated in the course. Approximately 110 additional employees have attended the University of West Virginia Construction Safety Course since its inception in 1995. Safety training and awareness needs have also been accomplished through coordinated efforts with local Navy Safety and Federal OSHA activities. Twelve ROICC employees participated in an 8-Hour Fall Protection Seminar presented by Federal OSHA Region III in coordination with LANTDIV, Navy Safety Center, and NAVFAC. As a result of the National Safety Council ROICC Safety Barometer, a need for additional Crane and Rigging training was identified. Immediate action was carried out by LANTDIV sponsorship of two 18-hour sessions provided by the Navy Crane Center on Crane and Rigging. The two sessions combined for a total attendance of over seventy LANTDIV participants.

● During FY 98, LANTDIV has exceeded the Navy and NAVFAC Asbestos and Lead Program requirements by assuring ROICC surveillance personnel have the training certification necessary to perform their quality assurance functions. This process has required employees to attend a 40-Hour Asbestos Course and annual refresher training. Advanced management decisions have made this training available by taking advantage of centrally funded courses available through the Navy Safety School.

● LANTDIV Construction Division has served as a common resource for all Component Command needs relative to construction safety. LANTDIV Construction Division Safety support is providing guidance and expertise to implement numerous changes in Italian laws in EFA Mediterranean (MED) area of responsibility (AOR).



● During FY 98, LANTDIV Construction Division has been called upon to serve in an expert capacity by NAVFAC as a presenter at the Naval Environmental and Health Conference in San Diego, California, the NAVFAC Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and the Navy Safety and Health Conference held in Norfolk, Virginia. NAVFAC continues to utilize LANTDIV for expertise and as a model and test site for construction safety improvement initiatives. LANTDIV Construction Division has contributed to NAVFAC in this capacity in FY 98 through participation in the development of new accident investigation guidelines, contract safety specification requirements, Safety Correspondence Certification Course revisions, and safety and health instruction improvements.

● Safety has been incorporated into the LANTDIV Construction WEB site in order to make safety expertise available to ROICCs at their fingertips. The WEB site, in conjunction with the ROICC Handbook distributed earlier this year, has helped in the distribution of information for ROICC standard business practices involving contractor safety.